



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 152

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2006

No. 77

## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

### PRAYER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Rev. H. Kenneth Dutille of Swans Island Atlantic Baptist Church in Swans Island, ME.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God of grace and glory, we turn to Thee today for motivation, guidance, and inspiration. Before we turn to today's challenges and opportunities, we would thank You for these few moments of prayer and meditations of heart.

Grant us greatness of spirit, to see Your all-encompassing view of the many traditions and customs from which we come.

The task before us is daunting; we need always to look upon the Almighty for understanding, wisdom, knowledge, and strength. May we be granted this day and in the days that lie ahead clear insight into the many problems and troubles that our great Nation faces.

Bless, O God, our Senators. They serve our Nation with poise and pride. Empower each to fulfill today's manifold responsibilities with courage and grace.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and forever. Amen.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Thank you very much, Reverend Dutille.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Maine is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, this morning, at 10 a.m., the Senate will vote on the supplemental appropriations conference report. Following the vote, the Senate will resume consideration of the Defense authorization bill. The two managers have made substantial progress, but we will need to work through a number of amendments today in order to complete the bill in a timely fashion.

Those Senators who have amendments should be working with Chairman WARNER and Senator LEVIN to get in the queue. The Santorum amendment on Iran is the pending business and we will need to schedule a vote on that today. The majority leader has announced that Members should stay close to the floor so that we can make significant progress during today's session.

### WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am delighted that our opening prayer this morning was so eloquently delivered by the Reverend Ken Dutille of Swans Island Atlantic Baptist Church in my home State of Maine. It is a great pleasure to welcome him to the Senate today. In fact, as he offered the invocation in this Chamber 11 years ago, on October 18, 1995, it is a pleasure to welcome him back to the Senate today.

Pastor Dutille's words give direction and purpose to our work. His actions

also inspire us; they are a vivid reminder of the commitment and compassion that exists among people of faith throughout our Nation.

His ministry is truly unique. His church is joined with churches on three other islands to form the Maine Sea Coast Mission. This nondenominational organization was founded more than a century ago to provide spiritual guidance and educational opportunities to the remote seafaring communities of Downeast Maine. In its early years, the mission's boat, which was called *Hope*, would deliver a minister to isolated island communities where there were no churches and books where there were no libraries.

Today, the *Sunbeam V* not only continues that vital work, but it also serves as a mobile health clinic bringing medical services—including screenings, inoculations, and telemedicine—to four islands that otherwise would not have access to medical services.

Pastor Dutille is the founder of another outstanding mission project, the Bread of Life Food Pantry on Swans Island. The food pantry is often all that stands between the pangs of hunger and a healthy meal for some people in this disadvantaged area of my State. Although the demands upon the food pantry are always considerable, they increased exponentially this last July when the only grocery store on Swans Island was destroyed by fire. The pastor and the rest of the mission community immediately rose to the challenge with a major fundraising campaign. The power of God was evident in their strength of purpose as they responded to this crisis.

The pastor is a fisher of people and a person of many accomplishments. He is a graduate of the Baptist Bible College in Springfield, MO, as well as of the University of Maine. He holds a master's degree from the California Graduate School of Theology. He has served in churches throughout Maine and has

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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